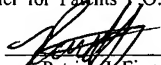




I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on December 1, 2003 by Patrick J. Finnan.

  
Patrick J. Finnan

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/098,627  
Applicant : Noah Scott Higdon  
Filed : March 18, 2002  
TC/A.U. : 2877  
Examiner : Evans, Fannie L.  
Confirmation No. : 3698  
Docket No. : 0918.0205C  
Customer No. : 27896  
Title : LASER INTERROGATION OF SURFACE AGENTS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 31, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 18 of this paper.

12/04/2003 HNUONG1 00000144 10098627

02 FC:1202  
03 FC:1201

72.00 OP  
86.00 OP

RECEIVED  
DEC 11 2003  
TC 2800 MAIL ROOM